

Message Text

SECRET

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67

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 PM-04 INR-07 /041 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

INFO AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

CINCPAC

CINCPACFLT

CTF72

COMSEVENTHFLT

JCS WASHDC

S E C R E T STATE 081255

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:MARR, COLR, TH, US

SUBJECT: BLANKET OVERFLIGHT CLEARANCE REQUEST FOR P-3

FLIGHTS TO DIEGO GARCIA

REF: BANGKOK 7672, , BANGKOK 6671

1. REF A RAISES ISSUE OF IMMEDIATE REQUIREMENTS FOR RESUMPTION OF TRANSIT FLIGHTS THROUGH UTAPAO FOR MILITARY AIRCRAFT ENROUTE DIEGO GARCIA AND REQUESTS GUIDANCE ON A PROPOSAL FOR OBTAINING BLANKET OVERFLIGHT AUTHORIZATION FOR SUCH AIRCRAFT, IN PARTICULAR P-3'S. TO OVER FLY THAILAND. CONCUR YOUR ASSESSMENT THAT PRESENTATION OF DIPLOMATIC NOTE REQUESTING OVERFLIGHT CLEARANCE WOULD RECEIVE HIGH LEVEL ATTENTION IN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND COULD PROVIDE INDICATION OF HOW RTG WILL REACT LATER TO U.S. REQUEST FOR RESUMPTION OF USE OF SECRET

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UTAPAO FOR STAGING PURPOSES.

2. IN VIEW OF PRESSING NEED FOR OVERFLIGHT RIGHTS EXPRESSED
REFS A AND B AND STRONGLY REAFFIRMED BY THE NAVY IT IS
CONCLUDED THAT THE MOST IMMEDIATE RELIEF WOULD BE

PROVIDED BY OBTAINING OVERFLIGHT CLEARANCE. ACCORDINGLY,
WHEN IN YOUR JUDGEMENT THE TIMING IS PROPITIOUS,
YOU SHOULD INITIATE PRESENTATION OF THE NECESSARY
DIPLOMATIC NOTE TO THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

3. YOU SHOULD EXPLAIN TO MFA THAT OVERFLIGHT CLEARANCE
IS REQUIRED NOW TO AVERT DEVELOPMENT OF A HARDSHIP
SITUATION AT DIEGO GARCIA. IN VIEW OF MINIMAL
POLITICAL VISIBILITY ATTCHED TO OVERFLIGHT AND BECAUSE
OF OUR LONG AND FRIENDLY ASSOCIATION ON SECURITY
MATTERS WE WOULD HOPE FOR A FAVORABLE REPLY FROM RTG
AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. KISSINGER

SECRET

NNN

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: vogelfj
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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To: BANGKOK
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